Geophysicist / Seismologist

**Job Description:** Study the physical features of a planet, including its gravity, magnetic field, earthquakes, and internal heat and energy.

**What does a Geophysicist or Seismologist do?**

* Locate the safest place to build a new bridge in an area prone to earthquakes.
* Discover new ways to extract oil from rocks.
* Predict the next volcanic eruption, giving people who are in its path time to evacuate.
* Find an underground water reserve that can be used to produce geothermal energy.
* Investigate the composition, structure, and history of Earth’s crust through the collection, examination, measurement, and classification of soils, minerals, rocks, or fossil remains.
* Evaluate earthquake hazards and locate possible faults.
* Prepare geological maps, charts and reports concerning mineral extraction, land use, and resource management.

**Outlook:**

Average Salary - $39.05 hourly, $81,220 annual

Projected Job Openings – 15,400 over the next 10 years

**Your Interests:**

* Do you like to collect rocks?
* Are you interested in earthquakes?
* Are you interested in what goes on inside the Earth?
* Do you like to travel?
* Do you enjoy solving mysteries?

**Education/Program of Study:**

* Bachelor’s Degree for some entry-level positions
* Master’s Degree in Geology or Earth Science preferred
* Ph.D. is necessary for most high-level research and college teaching positions